

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

ORDER NO. 00-002
NPDES NO. CA0105015

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
CITY OF CALIPATRIA, OWNER
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER COMPANY, OPERATOR
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Calipatria - Imperial County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, finds that:

1. On October 13, 1998, the City of Calipatria (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), P.O. Box 167, Calipatria, CA 92243, submitted a report of waste discharge to update its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, which allows discharge to "G" Drain.
2. The discharger owns a sewage collection, treatment and disposal system that serves the City of Calipatria. Southern California Water Company, 630 East Foothill Boulevard, San Dimas, CA 91773, operates the facility. The wastewater treatment plant is located near the intersection of Lindsey and English Streets, in the SW ¼ of Section 6, T12S, R14E, SBB&M. Treated effluent is discharged to "G" Drain, which flows into the Salton Sea via the Alamo River.
3. The wastewater treatment plant was expanded in 1990 to accommodate flow from the Calipatria State Prison, located 4 ½ miles northwest of the City of Calipatria. The maximum average design flow for the treatment plant is 1.70-million gallons-per-day (MGD). Current flow is approximately 50 percent of design, with half of it coming from the prison. The discharge from the prison is runs through a bar screen located at the prison, and enters the wastewater treatment facility through a sewage line servicing the prison exclusively.
4. The treatment system includes a manual bar screen, four square aeration ponds, and a disinfection system. The square ponds have sides 288 feet long, depths of 10.8 feet, volumes of 5.78 MGD and detention times of 3.34 days. Three of the ponds are lined with High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) liners. The effluent from Pond No. 4 flows to a chlorine contact chamber with a normal contact time of one hour. Sodium hypochlorite is the chlorination agent. The chlorinated effluent is dechlorinated in a flash chamber by mixing with sodium metabisulfite prior to discharge to "G" Drain.
5. The water table at the site is approximately three feet below the pond bottom.
6. The discharger reports that no industrial wastewater is discharged to the plant.
7. The discharger was subject to waste discharge requirements adopted in Board Order No. 99-018 (NPDES No. CA0105015), which allows discharge to "G" Drain.
8. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted on November 17, 1993, and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.

9. The beneficial uses of waters in the Imperial Valley drains are:
 - a. Fresh Water Replenishment of Salton Sea (FRSH)
 - b. Water Contact Recreation (REC I)^{1,2}
 - c. Non-contact Water Recreation (REC II)¹
 - d. Warm Water Habitat (WARM)
 - e. Wildlife Habitat (WILD)
 - f. Preservation of Rare, Endangered or Threatened Species (RARE)³
10. Federal regulations for storm water discharges were promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on November 16, 1990 (40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124). The regulations require specific categories of facilities which discharge storm water associated with industrial activity to obtain NPDES permits and to implement Best Conventional Pollutant Technology (BCT) to reduce or eliminate industrial storm water pollution.
11. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted Order No. 91-13-DWQ (General Permit No. CAS000001), as amended by Water Quality Order No. 92-12-DWQ, specifying waste discharge requirements for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities, excluding construction activities, and requiring submittal of a Notice of Intent by industries to be covered under the Board Order.
12. Municipal discharges exceeding 1.0 MGD are classified as Major by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Accordingly, Regional Board has classified this discharge as a Major discharge.
13. Effluent and receiving water limitations in this Board Order are based on the Federal Clean Water Act, Basin Plan and State Water Resources Control Board's plans and policies, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance, best professional judgment, and best available technology economically achievable.
14. Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards, established pursuant to Section 301, 302, 304, and 307 of the Federal Clean Water Act and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.
15. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency adopted the National Toxics Rule (NTR) on February 5, 1993. This rule mandates effluent limitations for all pollutants that are, or could be discharged at levels that may cause, or have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numerical water quality standard. Considering the information submitted as part of the application, in studies, and as directed by the Monitoring and Reporting Program, the Regional Board staff finds that the discharge does not have the potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above water quality objectives.
16. The proposed discharge is consistent with the anti-degradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.112 and State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 68-18. If terms of the Board Order are met, the impact on water quality would be insignificant, including potential impacts on aquatic life, which is the beneficial use most likely affected by pollutants discharged.
17. The Calipatria wastewater treatment plant is a publicly owned treatment works as defined in 40 CFR 403.3. Regulation 40 CFR 403.5 prescribes general pretreatment standards applicable to all POTWs discharging under the NPDES program. The standards are intended to: (1) prevent introduction of

¹ Unauthorized use.

² The only REC 1 usage that is known to occur is from infrequent fishing activity.

³ Rare, endangered, or threatened wildlife exists in or utilizes some of these waterway(s). If the RARE beneficial use may be affected by a water quality control decision, responsibility for substantiation of the existence of rare, endangered, or threatened species on a case-by-case basis is upon the California Department of Fish and Game on its own initiative and/or at the request of the Regional Board; and such substantiation must be provided within a reasonable time frame as approved by the Regional Board.

pollutants which will pass through the treatment works or otherwise be incompatible with such works; and (2) improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim municipal and industrial wastewater sludges. Furthermore, 40 CFR 403.8 provides for the State to require the discharger to develop a Pretreatment Program when the State or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finds that the nature or volume of the industrial effluent, treatment process upsets, violations of effluent limits, contamination of municipal sludge, or other circumstances warrant it, in order to prevent interference and/or passthrough.

18. The action to adopt an NPDES Board Order is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA: Public Resources Code Section 21100, et. seq.), pursuant to Section 13389 of the California Water Code.
19. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update waste discharge requirements for said discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments.
20. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order No. 99-018 is terminated, and in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations:

1. Effluent discharged to "G" Drain shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>30-Day⁴ Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>	<u>7-Day⁵ Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
20° C BOD ₅	mg/L ⁶	45	65	-----
	lbs/day ⁷	638	922	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	95	-----	-----
	lbs/day	1,347		
Settleable Matter	ml/L ⁸	0.3	0.5	-----
Chlorine	mg/L	0.01		0.02

2. The 30-day average percent removal of pollutant parameter BOD₅ and suspended solids shall not be less than 65 percent.
3. The inverse log of the hydrogen ion (pH) of the effluent shall be maintained between 6.0 to 9.0.
4. The effluent shall not contain heavy metals, chemicals, pesticides or other constituents in concentrations toxic to aquatic life.
5. There shall be no acute toxicity in the treatment plant effluent discharged to "G" Drain. Acute toxicity is defined as less than ninety percent survival, fifty percent of the time, and less than seventy

⁴ 30-Day Mean - The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 30 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program

⁵ 7-Day Mean - The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 7 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program

⁶ mg/L - milligrams-per-Liter

⁷ Based upon a design treatment capacity of 1.70 MGD. At lower flows, the discharge rate shall not exceed allowable discharge rates based upon actual flows.

⁸ ml/L - milliliters-per-Liter

percent survival, ten percent of the time, of standard test organism in undiluted effluent in a 96-hour static or continuous flow test.

6. Wastewater at the point of discharge to "G" Drain shall not have an Escherichia Coli (E. Coli) concentration in excess of a geometric mean of Most Probable Number (MPN) of 126 per 100 milliliters (based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period) nor shall more than ten percent of total samples during any 30-day period exceed 400 MPN per 100 ml.
7. The wastewater dry weather flow to "G" Drain shall not exceed 1.70 MGD.

B. Receiving Water Limitations

1. Receiving water limitations are based upon water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan. As such, they are a required part of this Board Order. The discharge shall not cause the following in "G" Drain:
 - a. The dissolved oxygen content of "G" Drain to be depressed below 5.0 mg/L. During any period when the receiving water's dissolved oxygen content is already below 5.0 mg/L, the discharger shall not cause any further depression.
 - b. Oil, grease, wax, floating material (liquids, solids, foam, and scum) or suspended material in amounts that create a nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
 - c. Aesthetically undesirable discoloration
 - d. Fungi, slime, or other objectionable growths.
 - e. Turbidity increase by more than 10 percent over background levels.
 - f. The normal ambient pH to fall below 6.0 or exceed 9.0 units.
 - g. Deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
 - h. The normal ambient temperature to be altered more than 5°F.
 - i. The maximum electrical conductivity to exceed background levels.
 - j. Chemical constituents to exceed concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or create a nuisance.
 - k. Toxic pollutants to be present in the water column, sediments, or biota in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
 - l. Taste or odor-producing substances to impart undesirable tastes or odors to the water or fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin or to cause nuisance or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses
 - m. Violation of any applicable water quality standards for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Board or the State Water Resources Control Board as required by the Federal Clean Water Act and regulations adopted thereunder. If more stringent applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to Section 303 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or amendments thereto, the Regional Board will revise and modify the Board Order in accordance with such more stringent standards.

C. Prohibitions

1. Discharge of untreated or partially treated waste to "G" Drain is prohibited, except as allowed by Provision No. 14 of the Standard Provisions for NPDES Permits dated October 1990.
2. Discharge of treated wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described in Findings No. 2, and 4 above, is prohibited.
3. The discharger shall not accept waste in excess of the design treatment capacity of the treatment plant.

D. Specifications

1. The treatment or disposal of wastes at this facility shall not cause pollution or nuisance as defined in Sections 13050(l) and 13050(m) of Division 7 of the California Water Code.
2. The Calipatria wastewater treatment plant shall be protected from any washout or erosion of waste or covering material and from any inundation which could occur as a result of floods having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
3. Public contact with non-disinfected wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and other acceptable alternatives.
4. The discharger shall not cause degradation of any water supply.
5. Objectionable odors originating at this facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal area.

E. Provisions

1. The discharger shall not cause degradation of any beneficial use of surface or ground water.
2. This Board Order shall serve as an NPDES Permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended and shall become effective at the end of ten (10) days from the date of the hearing at which this Board Order was adopted by the Regional Board, provided the Regional Administrator, or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has no objections.
3. This Board Order expires five years from the date of adoption, and the discharger shall file a complete Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with Title 23, California Code of Regulations, at least 180 days in advance of such date as an application for issuance of a new Board Order.
4. The discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
5. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of this Board Order. Noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Federal Clean Water Act, and is grounds for enforcement action, for Board Order termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification, or denial of a Permit renewal application.
6. The discharger shall comply with "Standard Provisions for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit" dated October, 1990.
7. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
8. The Federal Clean Water Act provides that any person who violates a Board Order condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Federal Clean Water Act is subject to a civil or criminal penalty.

9. The discharger is the responsible party for the waste discharge requirements and the monitoring and reporting program for the facility. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of these waste discharge requirements. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board Orders or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in modification or revocation of these waste discharge requirements by the Regional Board.
10. This Board Order may be modified by the Regional Board prior to the expiration date to include effluent or receiving water limitations for any toxic constituents determined to be present in significant amounts of discharges regulated in this Board Order.
11. This Board Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the discharger for a Board Order modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Board Order condition. Causes for modification include the promulgation of new regulations, modification of land application plans, or modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the State Board or the Regional Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.
12. The discharger shall provide notice to the Regional Board's Executive Officer of the following:
 - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into any of the treatment facilities described in the findings of this Board Order from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Section 301 or 306 of the Federal Clean Water Act if it were directly discharging the pollutants.
 - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into any of the treatment facilities described in the Findings of this Board Order by an existing or new source.
 - c. Any planned physical alterations or additions to the facilities described in the Board Order, or changes planned in the discharger's sludge use or disposal practice, where such alterations, additions, or changes may justify the application of Board Order conditions that are different from or absent in the existing Board Order, including notification of additional disposal sites not reported during the Permit application process, or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.
 - d. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of influent introduced, and any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of the discharger's effluent and/or sludge.
13. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
 - a. Enter upon the premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that shall be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order; and
 - d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at this location.

14. The discharger shall comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 00-002, and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer; and shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
 - b. The monitoring and reporting of influent, effluent, and sludge shall be done, at a minimum, on an annual basis, and more frequently, depending on the nature and effect of the sewage sludge use or disposal practices, or as specified in this Board Order.
 - c. All monitoring, including that of sludge use or disposal must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this Board Order.
 - d. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Board Order and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order, for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
 - e. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements(s);
 2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements(s);
 3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
 4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 5. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
 6. The results of such analyses.
15. The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with this Board Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Board Order.
16. The discharger shall report all intentional or accidental spills exceeding 1,000 gallons and also any non-compliance that could endanger human health or the environment within 24 hours of becoming aware of its occurrence. The incident shall be reported to the Regional Board Office **and** to the Office of Emergency Services. During non-business hours, the discharger shall leave a message on the Regional Board's voice mail. A written report shall be submitted to this office within five business days of the discharger becoming aware of the incident. This report shall contain a description of the non-compliance, its causes, the duration, and the actual or anticipated time for achieving compliance. The report shall include complete details of the steps that the discharger has taken, or intends to take, in order to prevent recurrence.
17. Within 90 days of the issuance of this Board Order, the discharger shall submit a Spill Response Plan (SRP) for Regional Board staff review. Thereafter, the plan shall be updated annually, and shall be available for staff review during Regional Board inspections. The discharger shall ensure that all operating personnel are familiar with the contents of the SRP. A copy of the SRP shall be maintained at the site and shall be accessible to all operating personnel.
18. The discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants and with standards for sludge use and disposal

established under Section 405(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act within the time provided in the regulations, even if the Board Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirements.

19. The discharger shall obtain written approval of the Regional Board's Executive Officer specifying location and method of disposal, before disposing of treated or untreated sludge, or similar solid waste materials. In addition, the discharger shall provide the results of any sludge analyses as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
20. The discharger shall maintain a permanent log of all solids hauled away from the treatment facility for use/disposal elsewhere.
21. All sludge generated at the wastewater treatment plant will be disposed, treated, or applied to land in accordance with Federal Regulations 40 CFR 503.
22. Collected screenings sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner that is consistent with State Water Resources Control Board and Integrated Waste Management Board's Joint Regulations (Title 27) of the California Code of Regulations.
23. The discharger shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical monitoring program reports, and such reports shall be submitted in accordance with the specifications prepared by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Such specifications are subject to periodic revisions as may be warranted.
24. All maintenance performed shall be reported with the monitoring reports as required.
25. Unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants", promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
26. The wastewater treatment plant, pump stations and the collection system shall be readily accessible for sampling and inspection.
27. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.
28. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that unauthorized persons are effectively excluded from contact with the wastewater disposal facilities.
29. The discharger's wastewater treatment plant shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certification of appropriate grade pursuant to Division 4, Chapter 14, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.
30. All storm water discharges from this facility must comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, drainage districts, and other local agencies, regarding discharges of storm water to storm water drain systems or other courses under their jurisdiction.
31. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not cause or threaten to cause pollution or contamination.
32. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not contain hazardous substances equal to or in excess of a reportable quantity listed in 40 CFR Part 117 and/or 40 CFR Part 302.
33. The discharger shall provide a report to the Regional Board when it determines that the plant is operating at 80 percent of the design capacity specified in Finding No. 3, above. The report should

indicate what steps, if any, the discharger intends to take to provide for the expected wastewater treatment capacity necessary when the plant reaches design capacity.

34. Compliance with the effluent limitation shall be determined at the end of the discharge pipe.

F. Pretreatment Provisions

1. In the event the discharger determines that the industries discharging to the wastewater treatment plant are impacting the performance of the plant, the discharger shall develop and implement an approved Industrial Pretreatment Program in accordance with the applicable Federal Pretreatment Regulations in 40 CFR Part 403.
2. An annual report stating that no industrial waste subject to regulation under the NPDES pretreatment program are discharged to the wastewater treatment plant shall be submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Copies of this report shall be submitted to the U.S. EPA Regional Administrator and to the State Water Resources Control Board.

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on April 12, 2000.

original signed by/
Executive Officer